

NEWS RELEASE



***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
San Diego, California***

***United States Attorney
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For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - May 20, 2008

United States Attorney Karen P. Hewitt announced that Damon Anthony Silva was sentenced today in federal court in San Diego by United States Magistrate Judge Jan Adler to serve twelve months in custody based upon conduct relating to three oil-pollution incidents involving a vessel docked at the G Street pier in San Diego Harbor. Silva pled guilty on February 21, 2008 to three misdemeanor counts of unlawful discharge of pollutants, in violation of the federal Clean Water Act.

At the time of his plea, Silva admitted that during the period from September 14, 2006 through December 2, 2006, he lived aboard the FV Kathryn Ann, which was docked at the G Street pier in San Diego Harbor. On September 18, 2006, he spilled diesel fuel from the Kathryn Ann onto the pier and used a hose to rinse the fuel into San Diego Harbor. The second incident occurred on November 14, 2006, during which Silva used a hose to pump oily bilge water from the Kathryn Ann, allowing the oily bilge water to be discharged from the hose into San Diego Harbor. During the third incident, which occurred on December 2, 2006, Silva was transferring diesel fuel aboard the Kathryn Ann and allowed the diesel fuel to overflow from

the deck of the Kathryn Ann into San Diego Harbor. Silva had no permit that would allow any discharge of pollutants into San Diego Harbor.

As part of his sentence, Silva was also ordered to pay a fine in the amount of \$7500 and to reimburse the United States Coast Guard in the amount of \$12,203.64 and the California Department of Fish and Game Oil Spill Response Trust Fund in the amount of \$2,404.20, for the costs incurred in responding to the three incidents.

DEFENDANT

Criminal Case No. 08cr0491DMS

Damon Anthony Silva

SUMMARY OF CHARGES

Counts 1-3

Title 33, United States Code, Sections 1311, 1342 and 1319(c)(1)(A) - Unlawful Discharge of Pollutants

AGENCIES

U.S. Coast Guard, Investigative Service and Sector San Diego
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Criminal Investigations Division
California Department of Fish and Game
San Diego Harbor Police